



# ***Citizen Energy Survey***

Your thoughts and opinions are very important to us!  
**Thank you** for taking a moment to help us find out what local residents think about using wood for energy. We value your opinion even if you have not previously thought much about energy resources. The survey will take about ten minutes.

**1. A recent study indicates that North Central Florida has a sufficient supply of wood to generate some electricity from wood. We would like to know your initial reaction to this information. How strongly do you feel each of the possible emotions? (Please answer for each row.)**

	Not at all	Somewhat	Very Much
Curious	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skeptical	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fearful	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2. Are you aware of any local discussions about using wood for producing electricity?**

- Yes
- No

**3. How knowledgeable do you consider yourself regarding the use of wood to generate electricity?**

- Very knowledgeable
- Fairly knowledgeable
- Slightly knowledgeable
- Not at all knowledgeable

**4. Which of the following characterizes your level of confidence in local government's ability to regulate a power plant that uses wood?**

- Very confident
- Fairly confident
- Slightly confident
- Not at all confident

**5. Which of the following characterizes your level of confidence in your local utility company's ability to effectively manage the daily operations of a power plant that uses wood?**

- Very confident
- Fairly confident
- Slightly confident
- Not at all confident

**6. Sometimes, an institution other than the utility company (e.g. hospital, school, factory) will develop their own power plant that uses wood to produce electricity. Which of the following characterizes your level of confidence in letting an institution other than the utility company manage a power plant that uses wood?**

- Very confident
- Fairly confident
- Slightly confident
- Not at all confident

**7. How much would you trust the following sources to provide you with accurate information about a proposed power plant that uses wood? (Please answer for each row.)**

	Not at all	Somewhat	Very Much
Chamber of commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City mayor/commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
County commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Utility Company	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local extension agent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local forester	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**8. How influential do you feel local citizens would be in the decisions regarding a proposed power plant that uses wood in your area?**

- Not at all influential
- Slightly influential
- Fairly influential
- Highly influential

**9. How interested would you be in being involved in the decision-making process regarding a proposed power plant that uses wood in your area?**

- Not at all interested
- Slightly interested
- Fairly interested
- Highly interested

**10. About how far is it from your house to the Deerhaven power facility at the intersection of Route 441 and NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street?**

- 0-3 miles
- 4-10 miles
- 11-20 miles
- Don't know

**11. Which of the following characterizes your feelings about having a power plant that uses wood developed 0-3 miles away from your home?**

- Highly negative
- Negative
- Neutral
- Positive
- Highly positive

**12. Which of the following characterizes your feelings about having a power plant that uses wood developed anywhere in Alachua County?**

- Highly negative
- Negative
- Neutral
- Positive
- Highly positive

**13. Some of the wood to fuel the power plant could be waste wood from land clearing already occurring for development. How supportive are you of using this wood source to produce electricity?**

- Not at all supportive
- Slightly supportive
- Fairly supportive
- Highly supportive
- I really don't care.

**14. Some of the wood to fuel the power plant could be waste wood from forest thinning to reduce the risk of wildfire or to improve forest health and productivity. How supportive are you of using this type of wood source to produce electricity?**

- Not at all supportive
- Slightly supportive
- Fairly supportive
- Highly supportive
- I really don't care.

**15. Some landowners may decide to grow wood for biomass power plants instead of wood for the paper industry. How supportive are you of using this wood source to produce electricity?**

- Not at all supportive
- Slightly supportive
- Fairly supportive
- Highly supportive
- I really don't care.

**16. How do you think wood compares to coal as a source of energy in terms of the following characteristics?**

	Wood is worse	About the same	Wood is better	I have no idea
Price	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worker safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry level jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other local economic benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National security	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**17. How do you think wood compares to natural gas as a source of energy in terms of the following characteristics?**

	Wood is worse	About the same	Wood is better	I have no idea
Price	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worker safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry level jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other local economic benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National security	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**18. Some people believe the following concerns are associated with power plants that use wood. How important are each of these concerns to you?**

	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Fairly	Extremely
Increased air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Increased truck traffic for wood delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Higher cost of electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Increased noise from plant operations	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Increased competition for wood	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Loss of local forests	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**What other concerns do you have?**

**19. Some people believe the following benefits are associated with power plants that use wood. How important are each of these benefits to you?**

	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Fairly	Extremely
Addition of entry level jobs to the area	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Keep dollars in the community	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reduce dependence on foreign energy	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Provide better markets for wood	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Not contribute to global climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Renewable energy source	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Use wood that would otherwise go to waste	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Maintain local forests	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**What other benefits do you see?**

**20. If Alachua County needs additional power, how COMFORTABLE are you with the following solutions?**

	Not at all	Slightly	Fairly	Very
Use more fossil fuels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use solar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use wind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conserve energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Look at new technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**21. If Alachua County needs additional electric power, how FEASIBLE do you think the following solutions are in your community?**

	Not at all	Slightly	Fairly	Very
Use more fossil fuels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use solar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use wind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conserve energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Look at new technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**22. Please indicate if you agree or disagree with each statement:**

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
As long as waste wood is being burned, we should collect it and use the energy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We should not remove waste wood from forestry operations because that requires the input of more fertilizer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planted pine trees, like corn, are grown in rows for human consumption. It doesn't matter what we do with them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
If we are going to use wood for energy it is most important that we manage the forest sustainably for wildlife, water quality, and wood production.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Without a viable market for pine trees, forest owners will sell their land for development and urban sprawl will eventually cover north and central Florida.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Healthy forests are precious ecosystems and should be left to nature.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Now we'll close with a few easy questions, which are included to ensure that the survey respondents represent the diversity of people that live in Alachua County.

**1. What is your residential zip code?** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. How old are you?**

- < 18 years
- 19-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-49 years
- 50-64 years
- 65-79 years
- > 80 years

**3. How long have you lived in Alachua County?**

- 0-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- More than 15 years
- I don't live in Alachua County.

**4. What is your gender?**

- Male
- Female

**5. What is your race or ethnicity?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American              | <input type="checkbox"/> Latino/Hispanic (of any race)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ |   |

**6. What is your household income?**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$0-\$24,999        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000-49,999     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000-\$99,999   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000-\$149,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$150,000 |  |

**7. Please check the highest level of education you have attained.**

- Less than a high school diploma
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Some college credit
- Associate degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Professional degree
- Doctorate

**8. Please complete the following sentence: Where I live is mostly:**

- Rural
- Suburban
- Metropolitan

**9. If you answered "Rural" above, do you see your neighborhood as distinct from Gainesville, or as an extension of that area?**

- Distinct
- Extension

**Is there anything else you would like to add?**

**Thank you for participating in this survey. Please return it in the envelope provided by September 15.**